the Paractiniæ and Monauleæ the septa are grouped in pairs, some number other than 6 is the basis of their arrangement.

"One Paractinia, *Sicyonis crassa*, certainly, and another, *Polyopis striata*, probably belong to the tetramerous Actiniæ, and probably bear to the fossil Tetracorallia a relation similar to that which the hexamerous Actiniæ bear to the recent Hexacorallia.

"*Scytophorus striatus*, the sole representative of the family Monauleæ, possesses an uneven number of pairs of septa, because in it there is wanting one of the two pairs which correspond to the extremities of the sagittal axis, and are called 'directive septa' from their peculiar position and structure.

"It is of interest to observe that in the Actiniæ, as in other groups, types of structure

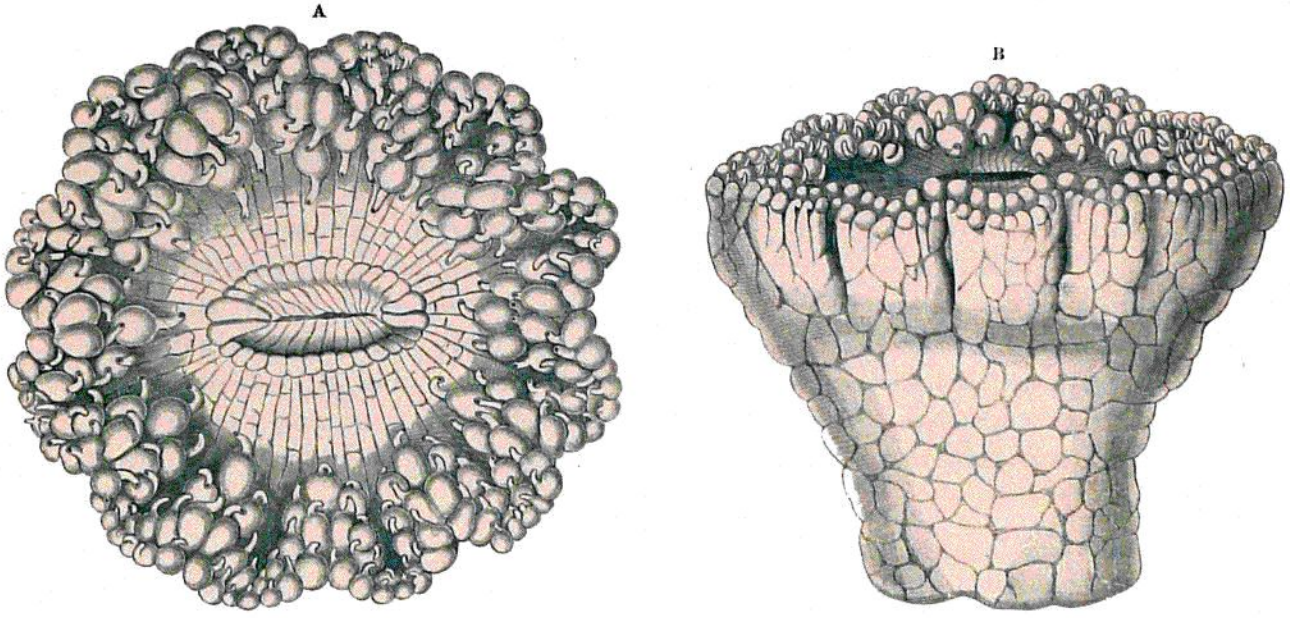

FIG. 189.—*Polysiphonia tuberosa*, Hertwig; A, oral view, and B, lateral view. Station 235, 4th June 1875, off Japan. 565 fathoms; natural size.

which have died out in shallow water have maintained themselves in the deep sea. Still more striking is a second peculiarity of the Challenger collection, which is also explained by the fact that all the specimens come from great depths; it contains numerous forms in which the tentacles have undergone a more or less extensive retrograde metamorphosis, by means of which they become converted first into short tubes and finally into simple openings surrounding the mouth. This modification can be followed step by step in different species. *Paractis tubulifera* (1875 fathoms) has still well-developed tentacles, like most Actiniæ, except that the terminal aperture, which in these is quite small or even entirely absent, has expanded into a widely gaping orifice.